

# The Sun

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1913.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second Class Mail Matter.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid.

DAILY, Per Month..... \$5.00  
 DAILY, Per Year..... 50.00  
 SUNDAY, Per Year..... 10.00  
 DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year..... 60.00  
 DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month..... 5.00

THE EVENING SUN, Per Month..... 25.00  
 THE EVENING SUN, Per Year..... 250.00

Postage to foreign countries added.  
 All checks, money orders, etc., to be made payable to THE SUN.

Readers of THE SUN leaving town for the summer months can have the morning and Sunday editions delivered to them in any part of this country or Europe on the terms stated above. Addresses changed as often as desired. Order through newsdealer or directly of Publication Office, telephone 2200 Beekman.

Published daily, including Sunday, by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York. President and Treasurer, William C. Reick, 170 Nassau street; Vice-President, Edward P. Mitchell, 170 Nassau street; Secretary, C. E. Lutton, 170 Nassau street.

London office, Edinburgh House, 1 Arundel street, Strand.  
 Paris office, 6 Rue de la Michodière, of Rue du Quatre Septembre.  
 Washington office, Hibbs Building.  
 Brooklyn office, 106 Livingston street.

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## The Town Meeting at the City Hall

To-day.

At and around the City Hall at noon or thereabout people are going to witness a somewhat remarkable spectacle. They are going to behold a Nomination walking on its own legs and presenting itself, without much organized outside assistance, to the worthy public servant for whom it is intended. We say without much organized outside assistance. The independent movement for the reelection of Mayor GAYTON originated in the inner council room of no partisan interest, and in the melting pot of no self-constituted committee of fusion, but entirely in the logic of the situation and in the personal desires of many thousands of the Mayor's fellow citizens. The movement is as nearly spontaneous as can be. The promoting talent expended upon it up to the present time has therefore been occupied in shaping the preliminary expression of an already existing sentiment rather than in creating or stimulating such sentiment, as is generally the case. This is as near an approach to the ideal of the Direct Nomination as is often seen. The Nomination goes to the City Hall on its own legs, and it carries its own shovel.

From a position of topographical advantage it has been THE SUN's fortune to observe many unusual spectacles in the plaza of the City Hall, ranging in variety of contemporaneous human interest from a friendly procession of the armed forces of the great Powers of Europe to the singular escape of a boa constrictor from a Chatham street animal shop. But the plaza has never beheld, and is unlikely soon again to behold, the phenomenon of a Nomination proceeding with unaided locomotion across its experienced and sophisticated asphalt.

## Rear End Collisions.

Whether on the unfortunate New England lines or on any other railroad, a rear end collision is inexplicable and indefensible on any theory of train operation that includes reasonable discipline and intelligent regulations. No assumed public demand for speed and no clerical record of train arrivals can excuse or condone a rear end collision.

On the subject of wooden coaches, let it be remembered that the vast majority of passengers ride safely and comfortably in such vehicles daily, without thought of danger. The composition of cars is of importance, but it is emphatically of less interest than the management of trains.

## "Correcting Fortune" by Means of the Income Tax.

Speaking of the proposal at the Senate end of the Capitol to push the graduated rate of taxation up to seven or even ten per cent, on very large incomes, the Baltimore *Sun* remarks:

"Those who, like THE SUN of New York, propose the same tax for all sizes of incomes forget one of the fundamental purposes of taxation."

We are not aware that THE SUN has ever proposed "the same tax for all sizes of incomes." That would be quite a different thing from the same rate for all sizes of incomes, producing a small tax on small incomes, a large tax on large incomes and a very large tax indeed on very large incomes.

What fundamental purpose of taxation is forgotten by those who believe in a uniform rate taxing everybody equitably in proportion to the income taxed?

Certainly not the fundamental purpose of raising revenue in order to meet the expenses of government. The income tax most productive of revenue would be the equitable tax at a uniform rate adjusted to the amount of revenue required.

Does our Baltimore namesake mean that the fundamental purpose of taxation forgotten by us is the socialistic purpose of redistributing the accumu-

tions of thrift, industry or superior ability and in a measure equalizing possessions by distributing unequally and disproportionately the burden of taxation—"correcting fortune" as the eighteenth century card sharpers used to say?

That has never been a fundamental purpose of taxation, in this country at least. When it is generally accepted as a proper exercise of the constitutional taxing power, things will have gone much further toward social and political revolution than the present advocates of a revenue tax on some incomes and a confiscatory tax on other incomes can possibly desire.

## Sound Signals for Railroads.

The disastrous wreck on the New York and New Haven Railroad near North Haven in a fog yesterday morning raises the question whether the adoption of a sound signal system would not prevent such accidents. It is true that torpedoes are still used on railroads, one explosion signifying that a coming train must put on the brakes and stop altogether unless a second explosion, a little further on, permits the train to proceed cautiously; but since the block systems were installed there has not been so much use of torpedoes, with the result that they are seldom used now except under dangerous conditions at night.

In clear weather the block signal ought to be infallible; but in a thick fog for an engineer, although he catch sight at close range of a signal set against him, may not be able to stop his fast express in time to avoid running into a train at a standstill on the track ahead. The block signal and the automatic brake have materially reduced the number of accidents, but excellent as these safety devices are they may fail in a blanket fog when they are most needed.

It is said to be the fact that excepting the casual torpedo and the primitive locomotive whistle there is no sound signal in operation on any of the railroads. As both the torpedo and the whistle depend for their availability upon human initiative and action there is certainly a place in railroad management for some kind of signal that in thick weather would convey to the ears of an engineer a warning that he must stop or run cautiously to avoid an accident. The heed of it is urgent to-day when two or more sections of as many express trains follow each other on a main line in such rapid succession that the stoppage of one train calls for the most alert and skilful operation of trains behind it. On a stretch of track where reliance is placed on the old "banjo" signals, the only kind that was in operation at the scene of the North Haven collision, signalling by sound should be a safety device of the first importance.

The difficulty of devising a sound signal that would reach the ears of a man at the lever of a locomotive roaring along the rails at high pressure must be recognized, but it is submitted that if he can hear the discharge of a torpedo beneath his wheels he should be able to catch the sound of a very loud foghorn or of a heavy metal bell such as is worked by gas engines in lighthouses. It is a problem for the engineering staff of the railroad, and perhaps not a very welcome one; but, aside from the matter of life saving, there is the economic consideration of avoiding damage suits after such a staggering disaster as has just occurred in Connecticut.

In the spring and fall of the year there are many days in this vicinity when the companies have to take the risk of running trains through fogs so thick that they obscure signals intended only for the eye of the engineer. There is more or less good luck about railroad operation, for the passengers as well as for the companies, when such a condition exists. Would it not therefore be for the interest of both parties to the transportation service to have the practicability of installing sound signals duly considered?

## In Charter Oak Park.

By a good fortune worthy of him and shared by the Nutmegs, that accomplished editor, statesman, poet, orator, administrator, the Hon. JOSEPHUS DANIELS of Washington, D. C., and Blowing Rock, N. C., was a guest at the opening in Hartford at Charter Oak Park of that time honored institution the Connecticut State Fair, and he was especially and triumphantly present at the Grand Circuit races there on Labor Day. This is the greatest "sporting event" in the Nutmeg calendar; and deacons have been known to come in from East Haddam and Moodus to bet their money on the bobtail nag. The Hartford *Courant*, next to the Hartford *Times* the leading pony-playing organ of Connecticut, was uncertain as late as Monday morning, and evidently knew not JOSEPH:

"To JOSEPHUS DANIELS, Secretary of the Navy, Hartford extends a cordial greeting and hospitality. We hope the distinguished member of President Wilson's Cabinet will take a livelier interest in horse racing than does Governor SIMON E. BALDWIN, who always looks the other way. His Excellency prefers a bicycle as a means of locomotion. The Grand Circuit stars are here and will shine on a track historic in its associations and combed to the last word for speed. The products of the farm and factory, fakers, music and all the rest will be there for the entertainment, not un-mixed with instruction, of the crowd."

Governor BALDWIN is somewhat of a Puritan; at any rate, a man who has been Chief Justice of the State has to be careful. But bless the *Courant's* venerable gizzard, the Hon. JOSEPHUS DANIELS is an all round Tar Heel Campana, the best "old sport" in the Old North State, in which, by the way, candidates for Congress have ridden bullback on circuit through their districts. Was there a grin of memory on the broad Josephian continent of face as he judged the Quakers, Jer-

seys and Holsteins? Be sure he lugged into his remarks "a graceful allusion" to Europa, that famous sea-going cow and unprotected cruiser.

Why, JOSEPHUS DANIELS has risen in aeroplanes and balloons, dived in submarines. We aren't at all sure that he has not been shot from cannon at Sandy Hook. He picks up torpedoes absently as information for his present business and pleasure. Devil wagons are too lazy for him. He wants every enlisted man in the navy to have a sailing yacht with the complete works of WILLIAM J. BAYAN in its library. And as for horses, don't the Hartford folks remember when he used to bugby from Blowing Rock all over the State and describe his tours all over the editorial page of his *News and Courier*?

There we miss him while he edits the navy. "But joy be his wherever he is," a better "banjo" is not. We regret that the bright old men of the *Courant*, following a humorist's tip, "played" all their money on their favorite novelist and b.k. m. Bertha Clay, and are not eating lunch.

## Ministers to American Waste-fuelers

For the men who have reduced fire fighting to a science, displaying in their vocation the always praiseworthy qualities of courage, hardness and quick resourcefulness, who do not cherish a sentiment in which admiration and affection are equally blended? Yet the high place occupied in American municipal housekeeping by the professional firemen is no credit to the people they serve. Instead, the necessary prominence they have attained indexes a national wastefulness, a disregard for safety, a contempt for experience, that could inspire in no community properly understanding its fallings any feeling except shame.

So few are the fires not directly attributable to carelessness, greed or deliberate criminality, they sink into insignificance. They occupy only a minute fraction of the time of firemen and insurance adjusters. They constitute a minor detail in the tabulation of the year's "conflagration loss." That sinister record derives its appalling bulk from the needless destruction of life and property caused by ignorance, by heedlessness, by jerry building, by non-obedience to the elementary precepts of public and private safety and self-control. With what grace does the outcry against the high cost of living come from a people that since January 1, 1881, has watched the destruction of scores of lives and of \$5,800,000,000 worth of property without seriously considering the adoption of effective methods to eliminate an unnecessary burden?

That America should have the best equipped, the most expensive of all fire departments in the world is inevitable. It needs them. We salute their chiefs, who to-day discuss the problems of their profession, for it is a profession, with all the respect due to skill and valor meritoriously employed. But for the public stupidity that creates and tolerates the conditions with which they must deal we have no sentiment save of disgust and contempt.

## The Unity of Idiots.

The San Antonio *Light* seems surprised at the popularity in the Dominion of an illustrious Pittsburg intellectual from Mattewan University: "For some occult reason our Canadian friends seem disposed to sympathize with our notorious citizen, HARRY K. THAW. When he did Canada the honor, and the United States the service, of leaving this country to seek refuge among our northern neighbors they greeted him as though he was a long lost friend. They gathered around his jail and shouted that he 'has done nothing to us,' yelled that he 'should be set free,' and in various other ways revealed their sympathy with the escaping prisoner."

Five and four years ago there were plenty of Americans who saw yellow and slobbered over this paranoiac pervert as the avenger of innocence and the martyr of morality. Occasionally THE SUN still gets a letter eulogizing THAW from one of these sentimental idiots who has not yet found some new "victim" to boo-hoo over. The Canadian demonstration in and out of court was grateful to the philosopher because it showed the essential unity of the slop-wood temperament, the hasty and ignorant psychology of mobs. Whether he is a Canadian weeping over THAW, an Englishman swearing by the Tichborne claimant, or an American decrying Dr. Cook or WILLIAM SULZER, the sloppy ignoramus, no matter what his nation, is the same.

## Mr. Kirby's Mistake.

With the declaration made yesterday before the Senate lobby committee by JOHN KIRBY, ex-president of the National Association of Manufacturers, that in accordance with his conception of his duties as a citizen he "had worked to defeat Congressmen whose views he disapproved, worked to elect others and expected to continue to take the same active interest in the future," nobody can quarrel. Every energetic citizen seeks the election in his own and every district where he has influence of the men who, in his opinion, will conserve the best interests of the country. Nor does it impeach any man's sincerity to add that each individual seriously believes what is best for himself and his friends is best for everybody.

Mr. Kirby was brought into this inquiry as a former employer of "Colonel" MULLHALL. It is a curious thing that a man holding Mr. Kirby's sound and unassailable views on the subject of a citizen's duties should ever have been the gull of a fantastic pretender like MULLHALL. Yet such incidents are not uncommon. Patriotism is not protection against error in the judgment of men.

Neither in the Constitution of 1777 nor in that of 1821, nor again in the Constitution of 1844, nor again in

that of 1894, nor in any of the amendments thereto, do we find the slightest color of authority for the idea that a Governor of New York, whether in good standing or under impeachment, may charge his gasoline bills and blow out tires to the State Highway Commission.

England has its militants, Europe its Balkans, Baltimore its Americans. And the United States its COLE BLAISE.

If Uncle Joe goes back to Congress it will be because his district, which has a right to choose its representative without outside interference, prefers him to the other candidates who may contest his election.—*Springfield Union*.

Our highly esteemed contemporary the Richmond *Times-Dispatch* gives this guarded, cautious and discriminating praise to the late FRANCIS THOMPSON: "Beside him at his best the vaunted Victorians seem as children playing unknown instruments."

THOMPSON, BROWNING, SWINBURNE, WILLIAM MORRIS, only children beside him! SAINTS BEUVE has come to life again.

The Saturday *Inquirer*, the organ of the Bull Mooseers of South Bend and Mishawaka, announced yesterday, August 30, that the editor, JOHN HENRY ZUVER, in a statement spread over the entire front page, intimated the people here are not sufficiently educated yet to appreciate the principles and reforms advocated by the paper. The Progressives are attacked for their lack of support.—*South Bend, Indiana, despatch*.

Will this awake no "angel" voices, too long asleep? There should be, must be, an endowed Bull Moose press to spread the glad word. Where is the Hon. GARDNER WALSH, who in this hour is not too hopeless? What sort of place is Indiana going to be for the Hon. JOHN HENRY ZUVER's children if the Progressive gospel is not to be propagated in parts of the Hoosiers?

Mr. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, disapproving of Labor Day as a holiday, says: "Too much time is wasted and too much money is spent foolishly on some of our American holidays. The money is better saved."

The fun and the recreation paid for are often worth while, nevertheless. It is a matter of opinion whether the money has been wasted. Mr. ROCKEFELLER paid his chauffeur on Labor Day to take him to the golf links in Cleveland and hired a caddy to carry his sticks and watch his drives and approaches. The money expended could have been saved, no doubt, but if Mr. ROCKEFELLER made a good score the sum was not spent foolishly.

The deposits in the First National Bank of Elmer increased \$189,000 between July 15 and August 23, caused almost exclusively by the marketing of the potato crop.—*Despatch from Elmer, N. J.*

The rest of the country from now on can look to Elmer in time of emergency. The historians of the future will record that the safety of the republic rested in the hands of her potato farmers. We didn't know there was that much money in all Jersey.

It is not numerousness that makes Boston.—*Syracuse Post-Standard*.  
 Not of people, but of ideal thoughts.

## OF AN ODD SORT OF DREAM.

And of the Art of Shop-Keeping, and the Increasing Number of Small Flats.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir, Queer things, dreams. With no provoking cause whatever so far as I know, I dreamed last night that there had been opened in our neighborhood a new delicatessen store. This was a very true and very nearly kept store, and it had in its window a curious sign, saying that they would be glad to sell in whatever quantities might be desired, however small.

I liked the dream and I liked that sign in the window. It is true that all delicatessen stores actually sell in quantities as small as anybody may want; but it seems to me that that sign would attract new customers who might not yet be fully accustomed to delicatessen ways and who might have felt shy about buying in small quantities. Not in a dream, but in real life we went to the store and bought a small quantity of a yard of cloth required for trimming. We wanted only a sixteenth of a yard, but we were almost afraid to ask for so little, and at first we thought we would buy a quarter of a yard, though four-fourths of that would be sheer waste. But finally we mustered up courage to ask for just what we wanted, one-sixteenth of a yard, and the clerk said: "It is a pretty small quantity to buy," we said apologetically to the saleslady; but:

"Not at all," she said, very politely and pleasantly. "We are glad to sell you just what you want. That is what we are here for."

Very agreeable that was to us, and now we go to that shop always for whatever we need. It was a spirit like that shown by the saleswoman in this fancy goods store that appeared in the sign seen in a dream in the window of the new delicatessen store, and if that store ever materializes I fancy it will trade but a little piece of cloth required for trimming.

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## CANADIAN IMMIGRATION.

The Astounding and Gratifying Growth of Our Neighbor to the North.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—Immigration into Canada for the fiscal year ended March 31 last added 401,432 persons to the population of the Dominion. Assuming that one-third of that number left the country, that being about the percentage of departures from the United States, the gain is still large and far ahead of preceding years. The arrivals in the fiscal year 1912 numbered somewhat more than 350,000, and those of 1911 about 310,000. The fixed increase in population in three years from that source was probably more than 700,000 and may have reached 750,000.

"There is no question now," says the Montreal *Gazette* editorially, "about the stream of home and work seekers having been turned toward this country." Emigrants usually move in well defined currents, and one of those currents now sets strongly and in steadily increasing volume toward Canada. In 1899 the arrivals numbered 44,543; in 1903, 128,844; in 1908, 204,071, and in the last three years as given above. It is perhaps a question whether there will be a similar increase in the next ten years. In the last few years Canada has built several thousand miles of railway and has needed laborers on construction work, in shops as well as on the line. The railways have opened new areas to agricultural settlers, and the agriculturists have made necessary the creation and the expansion of towns and cities. Canada's railway enterprises will, like our own, never be completed. There will always be a demand for labor and improvements to make, but the next few years seem likely to show the gain in new mileage shown by the last few.

In point of nationality Canada's new citizens stand in marked contrast to those now coming to the United States. The sources for the last year were: British, 150,542; United States, 139,009; other countries, 112,881. In round and approximate figures Canada's total arrivals since the opening of the present century have numbered 2,700,000, of whom 1,000,000 were British, 750,000 from the United States, 165,000 from Austria-Hungary, 88,000 from Italy, 67,000 from Russia, 61,000 Jewish, 31,000 from Germany, and the remainder in smaller numbers from other countries, Poland, Finland, China, Sweden, Norway, Bulgaria, Belgium, &c.

Practically two-thirds of the total number were English speaking people of ready political, social and industrial assimilation. The Canadian Department of Interior carries on an active propaganda of immigrant inducement. Formerly its activities included a part of southeastern Europe, but that region has now been dropped and the work generally limited to the United States, the United Kingdom, central and northern Europe. Those from southern or southeastern Europe are mainly in response to the communications from friends and relatives of earlier arrival and of successful experience.

A large percentage of the arrivals goes to the Canadian Northwest, a region that in rapidity of growth and of municipal expansion rivals the experience of many sections of this country. This rapid gain in Canada's producing population will doubtless serve to deepen the gloom of the timid souls on our side of the line who see in Canada's growth a menace to the economic welfare of the United States through, first, the draining into Canada of an alarming percentage of our agriculturists, and second, the flooding of this country with foodstuffs at prices that will put out of business the American farmers who stay with us. All such desponders should cheer up as much as they can. By the time Canada has a population of 20,000,000 and is able to export foodstuffs and other commodities to a value of \$1,000,000,000 a year we shall have 150,000,000 and urgent need of every eatable animal, every bushel of wheat and of potatoes, every pound of butter and every dozen of eggs that the Canadians can spare.

When that time shall have come Canada will be our customer for \$1,000,000,000 worth of our products. Her present population of about 8,000,000 ran up an account with us in the fiscal year just closed amounting to more than \$415,000,000.

Americans may regard the situation with decided contentment. The present is gratifying and the future full of promise for them and their neighbors.

Mr. Marshall's Commandment.  
 TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN:—Sir, Vice-President Marshall, speaking at a Methodist camp meeting at Great Falls, Va., is reported to have said:

"I believe in my Bible as it is. I am not a high critic, but if I were there would be one commandment I would change. For the sake of justice I would have the children read the sins of the children shall be visited on their parents."

"That one" seems to indicate a commandment to the effect that the sins of the fathers shall be visited on their children, and if that is the case, the revision of the Bible in this commandment, or words to the same, or similar, effect, to be found in the face of the eighteenth chapter of Ezekiel, and specifically the twentieth verse, in which the Prophet Isaiah is reported to have disposed of three thousand years ago?

GEORGE MORFAT.

New York, September 2.

## POPULAR CONTRIBUTIONS TO CAMPAIGN MELODY.

Air—"Marching Through Georgia."  
 Come get out your shovels, boys! Let us march along.

Shouting for Gaylor, three hundred thousand strong.

We'll shovel out the rascals, we'll shovel out the wrong.

As we go marching with Gaylor.

Chorus—Hurrah! Hurrah! For Gaylor "safe and sane."

Hurrah! Hurrah! We'll elect him once again!

He never ran but he won out, and we'll help him with might and main.

As we go marching with Gaylor.

The shovel is the emblem of honest, manly toil.

We'll shovel out the plunderers, their evil tricks we'll foil;

We'll shovel them and hustle them, the grafter's game we'll spoil.

As we go marching with Gaylor.

The shovel can raise breastworks if need be overnight.

The shovel is the weapon for good men in this fight.

The shovel is the symbol for us who stand for right.

## ROOT FOR \$1,000 EXEMPTION.

Says \$3,000 Minimum Pays Burden on Industrial States.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—Senator Root addressed the Senate to-day on the income tax. He advocated a reduction of the exemption to \$1,000 and warned the Democratic leaders against fixing too high a rate on the larger incomes.

He intimated that Senators from some of the Western and Southern agricultural States might find themselves open to the charge of trying to shift the burden of taxation from the backs of their own constituents to the people of industrial States like New York.

Senator James Hamilton Lewis of Illinois essayed to reply to Mr. Root. The Illinois Senator made much of an expression used by Mr. Root in his speech in which the New York Senator had referred to his New York constituents as "my people." Mr. Lewis intimated that this was adopted by Senator Root to embrace rich people who live in a territory bounded by Wall Street, the Waldorf, Park Harbor and Palm Beach.

Mr. Root sat silent most of the time Senator Lewis was talking, apparently not taking to the Senator's remarks. But when Mr. Lewis referred to a speech made by Senator Root at the time of the Roosevelt Administration, which started the talk about "New Nationalism," Senator Root took note of an error long enough to say it was evident that Mr. Lewis had not read the speech to which reference was made.

Senator Root said he was favorable to the principle of an income tax, but opposed to the spirit in which the Democrats propose to levy it on the men of large incomes and to the exclusion of small incomes.

"I am in favor of an income tax," the Senator said, "I believe in the principle of it. I think it fair. I voted for the income tax amendment to the Constitution. I urged it upon my people. I am not quarreling with an income tax or a graded tax. But if you impose too great a tax upon the industrial States you will, to that extent, diminish their taxable resources for State or other local purposes."

Senator Root reviewed the taxes imposed in New York State last year, to which \$234,000,000 was direct taxes. "A far greater amount than you expect to receive from the excise in the whole country," he added.

"The pending bill will diminish the taxable resources of New York more than the old income tax law did. If you do on putting it in effect, you are simply to take money away from the rich you will diminish the resources of the State more proportionately than you reduce the resources of the agricultural States, and you are taking away from the State more power when she relinquishes her constitutional rights in the formation of the Union, trusting to your sense of fairness as between the States."

## LAMAR BEGS TO TELL STORY.

Says He Could Point Out Where U. S. Can Recover \$25,000,000.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—David Lamar, the wolf of Wall Street, insists that he would be able to give the Senate Lobby Committee evidence which would enable the United States Government to recover \$25,000,000 on a stand taken by Lamar objects to the stand taken by the Senate Committee in refusing to give him a hearing.

Lamar has offered now to give the committee the names of six persons who will substantiate the charges he is to make. He has written this letter to the lobby committee:

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to be in receipt of a letter from your chairman concerning the production of testimony before the lobby committee.

Regarding the request of the committee that those who intended to be witnesses first outline in writing for the committee the nature of their testimony, I respectfully suggest to the committee that it is necessary almost the first paragraph in each communication reciting facts would place the writer, his liberty, business and property at the mercy of the most powerful and unscrupulous people in the country.

For persons rendering a public service to place themselves in jeopardy for the privilege of performing as mere letter writers, without any definite knowledge concerning their future fate or status before the committee—in short for them to give evidence at all except as witnesses and under the protection of the committee as such—will be from every point of view an ill-considered act.

Then again, whenever fragments of the written communications became public, allegations of the letter writers would be met by unsworn answers in the public prints of the persons affected by the charges. An endless controversy in the newspapers would ensue with no good result to the public interest, the process of the committee be brought into disrepute and the entire inquiry turned into a farce.